

Lieutenant Governor

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing

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Suspended License Scam

The Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing (DOPL) has received reports of fraudulent calls and emailed letters informing licensees that their license has been suspended. The caller uses Caller ID spoofing, so the incoming call appears to be from an official DOPL number. The caller follows up with illegally-produced documents using the Utah State Seal, DOPL letterhead, U.S. Department of Justice letterhead, and copied signatures of state authorities. The caller and fraudulent letters both demand the licensee pay a "refundable Federal Bond Fee" of thousands of dollars via gift cards and/or prepaid cards.

DOPL would like to remind all licensees that sudden license suspensions are rare. DOPL does not require payment of a "refundable Federal Bond Fee" in order to reinstate a license. Further, DOPL never demands gift cards or prepaid cards be used to pay for fines or fees.

If a licensee receives a phone call from someone claiming to be a DOPL representative and are told their license is unexpectedly suspended, the licensee should:

- 1. Hang Up
- 2. Call DOPL directly at 801-530-6628
- 3. Ask to speak with Investigations regarding a suspended license
- **4.** If it is determined the original call was <u>not</u> from DOPL, report the fraudulent call to a local police department

Do not, under any circumstances, give these callers money in any form. Follow the steps above to determine the validity of the call before taking action.

Visit dopl.utah.gov for licensing information relating to your occupation or profession.

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Beginning June 2023, ALL renewal notices will be sent ONLY to your email address on file with DOPL. If you are unsure if we have your correct email address on file, you can update your record by visiting the following link: <a href="document-docu